2/26/68

Dear Mrs. McMahon,

The answer to your question is the answer to the continuing mystery of the assassinations, especially that of the President. The media is self-corrupting. This applies no less to the "educational" stations, which have never aired me save once, when I did only part of a scheduled show from Washington that appeared on one or two other ETV stations. A number of people have suggested to WBAI that they air me, over the past three years (not recently), and several times I heard from people there. In the past, when I was in New York, because I am sympathetic to that type of programming, I have phoned WBAI. This is the first time they have ever aired me unless they played tapes I made in California where I have a friend who is aired on KPFK and for whom I always do an hour interview when I am there.

The sad truth is, that although the media have been corrupt and dishonest, especially the networks, the independent stations have, despite contrary complaints from those who feel as I do, given us much attention. That we get less now if largely because some of us have been irresponsible and dishonest, somehow imposed on the media, and the best-known have been unoriginal in their initial work and have done nothing since, which does help cool the things.

To cite one New York City example. WOR arranged a debate between Louis Nizer and Charles Roberts, defending the Warren Report, and Leo Sauvage and me attacking. It developed into a rather heated, passionate exchange between Nizer and me. As a result he lost his order for debating on this subject. Although the moderator was partisan and the station both intimidated (which a vice-president admitted to me on the spot, when thanking me for getting their revenge for them), they let this special grow into four hours and their aired that four times, making a total of 16 commercial hours they gave up. I cannot thus say that WOR did not give us time. They have aired me on other shows, like Barry Farber. Other stations have done similarly, some quite often (but not, in my personal experience, in the New York area). I do not know why the New York area stations do not do more of this by phone. I do it regularly for California, even Texas stations, by phone. I taped a show by phone after midnight this morning for a large Texas station.

But I think there is more commercial fear in New York. I suppose one reason my books are not more available in New York is that I, being the first, had to be my own publisher. My first book, WHITEWASH, really opened the subject. It did not endear me to publishers. I now have four books I published myself or agreed to accept the co-publisher status on (and on this book have yet to get a single cent in return), of which I enclose a list-order blank, and I have three more in limited editions, to make an historic record, if they cannot get into widespread editions, and to attempt to preserve my rights. They are new, with different, unpublished-unknown-information. I am working on a number of others. Frankly, although I go further into debt daily to do the work, I cannot go any deeper into to print. So, the additional answer is that the bookstores resist handling private printings, even when they make money on them.

Sincerely,
Harold Weisberg

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